



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture
10 W 15th Street, Suite 3100 · Helena, MT 59626

Montana and U.S. January 1, 2008 Cattle and Calf Inventory

For immediate release: February 1, 2008

For more information contact: Eric Siebens or Peggy Stringer at 1-800-835-2612.

Montana's January 1, 2008 inventory of cattle and calves was 2.60 million head, up 8 percent from the 2007 inventory. The inventory of beef cows that had calved on January 1, 2008 was up 10 percent from a year ago to 1.52 million head. The number of milk cows was down 6 percent from a year ago to 17,000 head.

Beef heifer replacements weighing 500 pounds or more were unchanged from 2007 at 440,000 head. Milk heifer replacements increased 2,000 head from last year to 12,000 head. The number of other heifers weighing 500 lbs or more decreased 1 percent from last year to 178,000 head.

The inventory of steers weighing 500 pounds or more was unchanged from 2007 at 240,000 head. The inventory of calves weighing less than 500 pounds, at 80,000 head, was double last year's figure. Inventory of bulls weighing 500 pounds or more was up 22 percent to 110,000 head.

The number of cattle and calves on full feed that will be sent directly to slaughter, at 40,000 head, was down 27 percent from a year ago. There were 1.6 million calves born during 2007, up 10 percent from the previous year.

All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2008, totaled 96.7 million head, slightly below the 97.0 million on January 1, 2007.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 41.8 million, were down 1 percent from the 42.0 million on January 1, 2007. Beef cows, at 32.6 million, were down 1 percent from January 1, 2007. Milk cows, at 9.22 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2007.

Other class estimates on January 1, 2008, and the change from January 1, 2007, are as follows:

- o All heifers 500 pounds and over, 20.0 million, down slightly.
- o Beef replacement heifers, 5.67 million, down 4 percent.
- o Milk replacement heifers, 4.46 million, up 3 percent.
- o Other heifers, 9.88 million, down slightly.
- o Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 17.3 million, up slightly.
- o Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.21 million, down slightly.
- o Calves under 500 pounds, 15.4 million, down 1 percent.
- o Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots, 14.3 million, up slightly.
- o The combined total of calves under 500 pounds, and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds outside of feedlots was 28.2 million, down slightly.

The 2007 calf crop was estimated at 37.4 million head, down slightly from 2006. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.2 million, down 1 percent from 2006.

#end#

Cattle and Calves Inventory January 1, 2006-2008

Class of Livestock	Montana				United States			
	2006	2007	2008	'08/'07	2006	2007	2008	'08/'07
	1,000 Head				1,000 Head			
All Cattle and Calves	2,400	2,400	2,600	108%	96,702	97,003	96,669	100%
Cows & Heifers that have calved	1,450	1,400	1,540	110%	42,056	42,023	41,777	99%
Beef Cows	1,431	1,382	1,523	110%	32,994	32,891	32,553	99%
Milk Cows	19	18	17	94%	9,063	9,132	9,224	101%
Heifers 500 pounds and over	610	630	630	100%	19,984	20,086	20,003	100%
For beef cow replacement	445	440	440	100%	5,904	5,877	5,670	96%
For milk cow replacement	8	10	12	120%	4,275	4,310	4,457	103%
Other heifers	157	180	178	99%	9,805	9,899	9,876	100%
Steers 500 pounds and over	180	240	240	100%	16,933	17,222	17,305	100%
Bulls 500 pounds and over	110	90	110	122%	2,263	2,215	2,207	100%
Calves less than 500 pounds	50	40	80	200%	15,465	15,456	15,378	99%
Cattle on Feed	55	55	40	73%	14,132	14,269	14,317	100%

Calf Crop, 2005-2007

	2005	2006	2007	'07/'06	2005	2006	2007	'07/'06
Calves born during year (1,000 Hd)	1,470	1,450	1,600	110%	37,575	37,519	37,361	100%